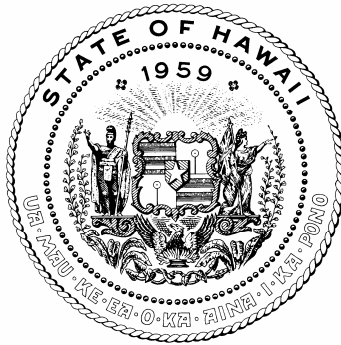


REPORT TO THE TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

REGULAR SESSION OF 2007

**RELATING TO THE WILDLIFE REVOLVING FUND
FISCAL YEAR 2005-2006**



Prepared by

**THE STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

In response to Section 183D-10.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes

Honolulu, Hawaii
November 2006

**REPORT TO THE TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2007**

**RELATING TO THE WILDLIFE REVOLVING FUND
FISCAL YEAR 2005-2006**

PURPOSE

Act 290, Session Laws of Hawaii 1991, amended Section 183D-10.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) by adding a requirement for an report to be prepared by the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) on the status of the Wildlife Revolving Fund (WRF) and to be transmitted to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to each regular session. The report is to include:

1. The source and application of monies deposited into WRF, including a description of the criteria and process used to determine funding priorities;
2. A description of programs and activities supported by WRF;
3. A summary of program highlights and accomplishments; and
4. A description of future program plans, including specific goals and objectives.

SOURCE OF FUNDS

Section 183D-10.5(b), HRS, provides that proceeds from fees for hunting licenses; game bird farmer and commercial hunting preserve licenses and fees; hunting guide licenses; hunter education training programs and use of public target ranges; fines collected for hunting or wildlife law violations; bail forfeitures; sale of articles required before hunting; and works of art may be deposited into WRF. For Fiscal Year (FY) 2005-2006 (06), the major sources of revenue were hunting license sales, wildlife stamp sales, and game tags and application fees. Sources of revenues are detailed below:

FY 06 REVENUE

Hunting License Sales	\$124,525
Wildlife Conservation Stamps and Artwork	88,118
Game Tags and Application Fees	119,540
Game Bird Stamp	41,792
Commercial Shooting Preserve Shooting Permits	2,998
Game Bird Farmer and Commercial Hunting Preserve License and Fees	425
Hunter Education Activities	2,751
Hunting Guide License Fees	915
Circuit Court Fines	300
District Court Fines	0
Sale of Maps and Publications	0
Interest	12,760
Miscellaneous	<u>50</u>

TOTAL FOR FY 06**\$394,174**

Revenue for FY 06 represented a \$69,239 (21.3%) increase of comparable revenue from the previous year. No changes were made from last year in costs or categories of fees for any hunting program. Revenue did not meet the Department's authorized budget ceiling of \$564,785 for WRF. New expenditures totaled \$336,576. The cash balance at the end of FY 06 amounted to \$336,742 with outstanding encumbrances of \$105,576. Unencumbered cash available for carryover totaled \$222,783.

Status of WRF during FY 06 (S-06-343-C & S-06-344-C)

Beginning Cash Balance of Fund on July 1, 2005:	\$336,742
Less: Liquidation of outstanding encumbrances from prior years:	\$ 65,981
Add: Revenues during FY 06:	\$394,174
Less: Expenditures during FY 06:	\$336,576
Cash Balance as of June 30, 2006:	\$328,359

Less: Unpaid encumbrances for FY 06 as of June 30, 2006:	\$ 95,060
Less: Unpaid encumbered contracts for FY 06 as of June 30, 2006:	\$ 10,516
Unencumbered Cash for carryover as of June 30, 2006:	\$222,783

FUNDING PRIORITIES

WRF continues to be an important portion of the overall budget to meet obligations of state match and operating and salary expenses for game and wildlife projects. Because the major source of revenue in WRF is derived from sales of hunting licenses, wildlife stamps used to validate hunting licenses, and game tags and fees, priority is given to expenditures which benefit this user group. In budgeting for the use WRF, a policy of allotting approximately 85% of the budget for the hunting program has been in place and followed. Approximately 15% of the budget is allocated for nongame and wildlife sanctuary management, generally to projects that benefit both game and non-game species. Typical examples are the predator and weed control efforts to benefit nene and game birds in the Kapapala Cooperative Game Management Area (GMA) and the Kipuka Ainahou Nene Sanctuary on the Big Island. These same management activities are carried out in Kuaokala GMA on Oahu, and benefit pueo and albatross, as well as game birds.

Section 183D-10.5(e), HRS, also requires that the State first use WRF monies to "maximize the State's participation to secure federal funds under the Pittman-Robertson Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act." Consequently, a priority was given to those expenditures that provided the state match for Pittman-Robertson (PR) projects.

Additionally, a major source of revenue during FY 06 was game tag and application fees for specific hunts. The Department made a commitment to the hunting public to use those fees to support operations for the program where each set of fees were

assessed. Revenue from tag and application fees was allocated to the Branches of the Department's Division of Forestry and Wildlife (DOFAW) where the hunts occurred.

The allocation of operating funds to DOFAW's Branches was done on a lump sum basis to be used on eligible projects in the most efficient manner possible. Salary funds were divided to provide each Branch a full time or part time general laborer position and to provide a clerk typist to manage the hunting license database. The operating funds were allotted to the Branches based on the respective branch wildlife program size and complexity, and amount of revenue generated from license, stamp, tag, and application fees. This allotment process puts the decision on where and how to use WRF monies at the branch-operational level where funds can be used on the most appropriate and pressing local needs.

PROCESS USED

1. The Department's Fiscal Office and DOFAW coordinated to determine the amount of WRF available for allocation to DOFAW's Branches.
2. At the beginning of each fiscal year, a portion of WRF was allocated to each DOFAW Branch, to the Administrative Staff on Honolulu for Statewide projects and to the Hunter Education Branch of the Department's Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement. Allocations are based on the size and complexity of the wildlife program and amount of revenue generated by license sales, stamps, and tag and application fees. A portion of WRF is allocated for temporary personnel to maintain critical wildlife program functions such as hunting license sales data base management, and to general laborers to assist with wildlife projects.
3. Each Branch was instructed to use their WRF budget to benefit the resources and resource users within the criteria of compliance with the purpose of WRF, the necessity to provide state-match requirements for Pittman-Robertson federal aid projects if needed, and to fall within the percentage distribution for the game and non-game programs.
4. An emphasis was placed on using WRF for expenditures that provided needed infrastructure and improvements to public hunting areas, maintained existing or provided new public hunting opportunities, or addressed high priority conservation initiatives.
5. Purchase orders were identified and coded as "WILDLIFE REVOLVING FUND: S-06-343" to facilitate tracking and accountability.
6. Expenditures complied with approved categories of expenditures for WRF as established by The Board of Land and Natural Resources on August 13, 1993 (see Attachment).

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS, ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND FUTURE PLANS

KAUAI SEGMENT

Hunting Season Management

Monies from WRF were used to purchase bulk postage mailing, game tag materials, the printing of game tags and instructions sheets, and the publication of legal notices regarding game bird and game mammal hunting seasons. The new Waimea Heights and Puu Opae Sugar Cane Lands (5,500 acres) were again opened for game bird hunting. Accomplishment: Materials were produced, made available, and distributed; and hunting seasons and rules were announced. Expenditures incurred*: \$8,000

*Expenditures incurred=expenditures + encumbrances in FY 06

Game Operations and Maintenance (O & M)

Monies from WRF were used to purchase various tools and equipment such as a portable welder and electrical tools. Monies were also used to purchase office supplies and to support the game hunting program with a temporary general laborer.

Accomplishment: Improve conditions for game birds and provide for relocating game birds as appropriate. Expenditures incurred: \$4,200

Motor Vehicle Repairs and Purchase

Monies from WRF were used to repair and maintain DOFAW's Wildlife Section motor vehicle fleet to keep vehicles in good running condition. Funds were also used to purchase (partial) a new 4-wheel drive truck for game operations and maintenance purposes.

Accomplishment: Kept vehicles running in good condition. Expenditures incurred: \$29,978

Game Bird Incubator/Hatcher

Monies from WRF were used to purchase a new large capacity incubator/hatcher which would be used to support the new game bird hatching and rearing facility in Hanapepe, Kauai, Hawaii.

Expenditures incurred: \$ 10,128

Game Facility Construction

Monies from WRF were used to purchase building materials such as lumber and plumbing supplies for the new game bird propagation facility in Hanapepe, Kauai, Hawaii.

Expenditures incurred: \$2,000

Travel and Subsistence

Monies from WRF were also used for off-island travel and subsistence during the annual statewide DOFAW meeting held on Oahu this year.

Accomplishment: Provided a better understanding of non-game and game wildlife issues and challenges faced by State wildlife biologist and foresters. Expenditures incurred: \$545

Radio Facilities, Repeater, and Micro-Computer

Monies from WRF were used to upgrade and expand radio communications.

Expenditures incurred: \$8,000

Commissions on Hunting License Sales

WRF monies were used to pay vendors their commission on the sale of 2006 Hawaii Hunting Licenses.

Accomplishment: Hunting licenses available and sold by vendors. Expenditures incurred: \$1,930

Total WRF expenditures incurred for Kauai: \$64,784

Future Program Plans:

1. Continued employment of one temporary hire personnel, plus an additional temporary hire to assist on game development, maintenance and management projects as necessary – Two temporary hire positions (50% WRF)
2. Provide for the administrative costs, such as legal notices, printing and administration of game tags, announcements of hunting season changes, and additions of new hunting areas - \$6,000 (100% WRF).
3. Continued artificial release of game birds in Kekaha and Wailua GMA. Purchase additional materials and supplies to operate the Hanapepe gamebird propagation facility. \$18,000 (100% WRF).
4. Incremental development of a public archery/rifle target range at Hanahanapuni - \$5,000 (100% WRF)
5. Purchase of a pickup truck to replace a vehicle that is beyond economical repair to be used in the conduct of both game and non-game programs on Kauai - \$6,000 (30% WRF)
6. Purchase of fencing material to re-establish a fence between the Unit A-Kekaha GMA and agricultural fields of the Mana Plains to prevent game mammals and wild cattle from damaging crop fields. The fence line is approximately eight miles long and may require installing one mile of fence per year. \$10,000 (50% WRF).
7. Trap up to 100 feral goats from Nualolo Kai State Park and Makaha Ridge Military Reservation and translocation to the Kekaha GMA. The translocation of goats is necessary to keep numbers to a minimal in sensitive areas. \$10,000 (50% WRF).

OAHU SEGMENT

The objectives of the wildlife program segment on Oahu were as follows:

1. To maintain and enhance wildlife habitat and facilities on Oahu public hunting areas, GMA's, and wildlife sanctuaries.
2. To improve game bird and game mammal hunting opportunities on Oahu.

Game Bird Enhancement on Oahu.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Wildlife Services Branch was contracted to perform year-round predator control services in the Kuaokala GMA. A portion of the work was funded by WRF to protect game birds in the area.

Accomplishment: Mongooses, feral cats and feral dogs were removed. Expenditures incurred*: \$8,155

*Expenditures incurred=expenditures + encumbrances in FY06

900 pounds of wild bird feed was spread along dirt access roads in Kuaokala and Waimano Public Hunting Areas. Expenditures incurred: \$417.

Four gas-powered weed-eaters were purchased to support the volunteer program at Kuaokala GMA. Volunteers put in 450 hours during the year maintaining water units and other habitat improvement projects. Expenditures incurred: \$1,475

Hunting Area and Wildlife Sanctuary Habitat and Facilities Improvements

A landscape company was hired to perform 20 hours of maintenance work at Hamakua Marsh State Wildlife Sanctuary in support of the endangered Hawaiian water birds that feed and nest in the area. Expenditures incurred: \$1,485

Four large entry signs were purchased and installed at Makua Keaau and Waimano Public Hunting Areas. Expenditures incurred: \$1,314

Purchase of a pickup truck to replace a vehicle that is beyond economical repair. Expense is ½ cost share with non-game programs. Expenditures incurred (contract): \$9,712 (100% WFR)

Two wildlife assistants were hired to perform operations and maintenance work on Oahu public hunting areas and wildlife sanctuaries. Expenditures incurred: \$11,387

Contract created, encumbered and invoiced for a general laborer through the Research Corporation of the University of Hawaii (RCUH) to perform operations and maintenance work on public hunting areas and wildlife sanctuaries. Expenditures incurred: \$39,310

Total WRF expenditures incurred for Oahu: \$73,255

Future Program Plans

1. Continue with WRF temporary personnel to perform tasks targeted towards the ongoing management of Oahu District wildlife management areas - \$40,000 (100% WRF).
2. Contract the USDA Wildlife Services Branch to hold and transport Gray and Black Francolins from Molokai to Oahu for release in public hunting areas - \$6,638 (100% WRF).
3. Purchase equipment and supplies needed for ongoing O & M in Oahu Wildlife Management Areas - \$15,000 (100% WRF).

4. Conduct boundary survey of wildlife management areas - \$15,000 (100% WRF).
5. Management facilities planning and development - \$20,000 (100% WRF).

MAUI SEGMENT

Lease of Cooperative GMA -Lanai

Objective: Provide 30,000 acres of land on Lanai for sport hunting and wildlife management.

Accomplishment: The entire annual lease rental for the Lanai Cooperative GMA was paid via WRF monies. Expenditures incurred*: \$35,000

*Expenditures incurred=expenditures + encumbrances in FY06

Lease of Lands for Hunting Unit C - Maui

Objective: To maintain a lease of 1,000 acres of ranch lands lying between portions of the Kula Forest Reserve Hunting Unit C for sport hunting and wildlife management.

Accomplishment: A portion of the lease rental for the Kaonoulou Ranch Cooperative GMA was paid with WRF monies, providing 1,000 acres for sport hunting and wildlife management on Maui. Expenditures incurred: \$600

Contract Services-Data/Lanai Hunts

Objective: With the shortage of clerical staff, coupled with high interest and participation in the Axis Deer and Mouflon Sheep hunts on Lanai, it become necessary to contract outside support to assure all lottery and non-lottery hunt applications were processed in a timely manner.

Accomplishment: A total of 4,800 hunter applications were received for the two Lanai hunts (up 25% from last year). All applicant data was entered, with duplicate applications identified and deleted. Lottery drawings were conducted for muzzleloading and general rifle hunts for both the Axis Deer and Mouflon Sheep hunts, with results compiled and disseminated in a timely manner. Expenditures incurred: \$2,000

Full time / Temporary general laborer-Lanai

Objective: To assist the Lanai Forestry and Wildlife Technician with the upkeep and maintenance of 27 miles of water unit pipeline and 54 miles of access roads in the Cooperative GMA.

Accomplishment: Access roads and pipeline units were maintained and kept functional during the entire time period. Expenditures incurred: \$40,000

Temporary – Full Time Wildlife Assistant-Maui - RCUH

Objective: To continue to maintain a temporary full time position originally funded via Natural Area Partnership Program's (NAPP) monies as part of the management scheme for the East Maui Watershed Partnership area to assist in the hunter access program, maintenance of the access road system, signage replacement, transect monitoring, and the gathering and collating of hunter harvest data. Half of this position was funded via WRF.

Accomplishment: Objectives achieved. Expenditures incurred: \$14,000

Management of the Lottery Hunts-Lanai

Objective: To prepare and print documents and drawing work for the Axis Deer and Mouflon Sheep hunts on Lanai.

Accomplishment: Application cards, instruction sheets, and addendums were printed and distributed; and lotteries were conducted. Expenditures incurred: \$7,000

Game Mammal Facilities O & M-Lanai

Objective: To transport personnel to Lanai for the upkeep and maintenance of the pipeline water units, especially when breaks occur that must be located along 27 miles of pipeline.

Accomplishment: Personnel from Maui and Molokai were sent over to Lanai to maintain water units and repair breaks as required. Personnel also assisted with hunter check station operations. Expenditures incurred: \$1,000

Game O & M (Maui-Molokai)

Objective: To fund unanticipated costs within the District including supplies and services to maintain hunter access and equipment necessary for the continued operation of game facilities.

Accomplishment: Signs were repaired and replaced as necessary, and office equipment was maintained. Expenditures incurred: \$1,000

Game Habitat Management

Objective: To strip mow portions of Unit 3 of the Cooperative GMA to provide desirable breeding and brooding areas for game birds. Expenditures incurred: \$4,000

Game Surveys

Helicopter services for game surveys and related activities. Expenditures incurred: \$5,755

Vehicle Repair and Maintenance and Equipment Rental

Expenditures incurred: \$1,342

Software and Printer Purchased

Supplies and equipment for game functions and game staff. Expenditures incurred: \$7,691

Game Biologist and Wildlife Technician Staff Time

Additional time billed to the above and related projects to assist in implementation. Expenditures incurred: \$32,565

Commissions on Hunting License Sales

Objective: WRF was used to pay the commission to vendors for the sales of the 2006 Hawaii Hunting Licenses. Expenditures incurred: \$4,519

Total WRF expenditures incurred for Maui District: \$155,662

Future Program Plans

1. Fund land lease on Lanai - \$35,000 (100% WRF)
2. Fund land lease on Maui - \$2,600 (25% WRF)
3. Fund Lanai Check Station overtime for Forestry and Wildlife Technician V Position - \$5,000 (100% WRF)
4. Fund GL I position for Lanai for facility upkeep and maintenance - \$40,000 (100% WRF)
5. Fund game mammal facilities Development and O & M on Lanai - \$10,000 (100% WRF)
6. Fund game mammal surveys on Lanai - \$10,000 (100% WRF)
7. Fund Koolau Ungulate Monitoring Project - \$40,000 (10% WRF)
8. Fund repair and maintenance of Lanai vehicles - \$1,000 (50% WRF)
9. Fund management of lottery hunts on Lanai; document printing, data input and drawings - \$10,000 (100% WRF)
10. Fund signage for areas closed to hunting on Lanai - \$1,000 (100% WRF)
11. Fund GL I position for Lanai hunter check station work - \$10,000 (100% WRF)

EAST HAWAII SEGMENT

General Laborer Positions:

The half-time general laborer II job for which recruiting began last year was filled by a former volunteer and current student pursuing a degree in ecological management.

“Duties were assigned pertaining to the management of the feral cattle hunt, checking station duty, and nene habitat management.”

Accomplishment: Last year’s program plans were realized with the hiring of a general laborer. Expenditures incurred*: \$8,400

*Expenditures incurred=expenditures + encumbrances in FY06

Wildlife Habitat Management:

Keaau cooperative nene release sites and adjacent coastline were cleared for nene occupation. Twenty-two traps and seven feed stations were maintained. In-kind matching contributions using volunteer and prison labor which qualified for PR cost sharing.

Accomplishment: Habitat was maintained to accommodate nene occupation.

Expenditures incurred: \$2,400

Wildlife O & M

Seven miles of roadway leading into the Hilo Forest Reserve and Watershed were renewed to accommodate feral cattle hunters in the newly offered opportunity for which preparation began last year. The hunt is occurring on 65,514 acres of wetland forest. The Kipuka Ainahou area was inspected for gorse infestations as prescribed in the lease agreement with Kamehameha Schools/Bishop Estates. Gorse was removed. Repair and maintenance of the Wildlife Section’s motor vehicle fleet was continued to keep vehicles in running condition. Accomplishment: Thousands of acres of game bird hunting area were improved by fertilizing and removal of competitive vegetation and vehicles kept running. Expenditures incurred: \$10,777 (50% WRF, 50% PR)

Game Biologist and Wildlife Technician Staff Time

Additional time billed to the above and related projects to assist in implementation.

Expenditures incurred: \$13,742

Rental of Land and Buildings

Access to facilities used in game related functions. Expenditures incurred: \$1,910

Commissions on Hunting License Sales:

WRF monies were used to pay commissions to vendors on the Island of Hawaii for sales of the 2006 Hawaii hunting licenses. Expenditures incurred: \$3,686

Total WRF expenditures incurred for East Hawaii: \$40,915

Future Program Plans

1. Continue to employ the part-time general laborer and thereby expand the hunter checking station coverage, to assist with gorse removal from the Kipuka Ainahou hunting area lease, and to assist with the Hilo Watershed feral cattle hunt access improvements - \$15,000 (50% WRF, 50% PR)
2. Request an extension of the Hilo Watershed feral cattle hunt for two more years - \$32,000 (1/3 WRF, 1/3 HCCI, 1/3 PR)
3. Develop hunter access from Saddle Road to Wailuku River for new accessibility to hunting areas for feral pigs and cattle in a first time publicly offered feral cattle hunt opportunity - \$60,000 (1/3 WRF, 1/3 HCCI, 1/3 PR)

WEST HAWAII SEGMENT

Equipment Purchase

A Ford F-250 4x4 truck was purchased (\$7,500), 1000-gallon water tank and a 1,500 gallon water were purchased (\$2,000), 1000 feet of 1 ¼ inch ploy pipe (\$7,450), partial funding for a slip-on herbicide spray unit (\$1000), 2-way radio for SH B484 (\$2,200), ATV Identification flags (\$276); and raingear, boots, and field pack for the General Laborer Position (\$435). An additional, \$2,175 was used to purchase replacement parts for West Hawaii Wild Fleet vehicles. Expenditures incurred*: \$20,125

*Expenditures incurred=expenditures + encumbrances in FY06

Game O & M

A forestry and wildlife worker tech IV was employed for hunter checking station work and other game management efforts. Dozer hauling and repairs to the five- ton dump truck were also paid for through this account. Parts for the construction of a water trailer were purchased and the Big Island Bird Hunter's club will build the trailer that will eventually be used to service water units. Tires for vehicles were also purchased. A private vendor was hired for predator control services conducted in Kaohe GMA. Accomplishment: Road repairs to the Puu Waawaa hunter access road were completed and predators removed. Expenditures incurred: \$26,929

Game Surveys

Helicopter services for game surveys and related activities. Expenditures incurred: \$2,000

Publication of Legal Notices

Announcement of hunting seasons and special hunts and conditions. Expenditures incurred: \$1,496

Total WRF expenditures incurred for West Hawaii: \$50,550

Future Program Plans

1. Purchase a used truck for O & M on water units, water systems, and other facilities in GMA's - \$10,000 (100% WRF)
2. Build two new water units in the Puu Waawaa Cooperative GMA - \$12,000 (100% WRF)
3. Hire a full-time general laborer for O & M - \$32,000 (100% WRF)
4. Pay for legal notices of hunting announcements - \$3,000 (100% WRF)
5. Contract helicopter services for game surveys - \$10,000 (100% WRF)
6. Rent portable toilets for use in high demand hunting areas-\$600 (100% WRF)

STATEWIDE ADMINISTRATIVE SEGMENT

Hunting License, Wildlife Conservation Stamp, and Game Bird Stamp Production, Program Sales, and Management:

A portion of the production costs for FY 06 were paid for from WRF to begin the transition to electronic hunting license purchase and record keeping, to produce the Hawaii Hunting License, duplicate license, wildlife stamp, and game bird stamp. Expenditures included some of the printing and shipping costs of new licenses and stamps, and a small portion of the printing costs of purchase orders. Expenditures incurred: \$7,740

Notification of hunting season openings and changes:

The game bird season announcement, with some bag limit adjustments and new weekday hunting additions in some areas, was published as a legal notice. Expenditures incurred: \$927

Computer, Printer, and Software

Funds were utilized for new electronic hunting license sales. Expenditures incurred: \$3,946

Radio Facilities, Repeater, and Micro-Computer

Funds were used to upgrade and expand radio communications. Expenditures incurred: \$6,258

Salary and Fringe

Staff time was spread over the above and related functions. Expenditures incurred: \$7,434

Partial Allocation of Private National Shooting Sports Foundation Grant

A portion of a grant received was transferred to WRF toward purchase of 910 acres of the Manana Valley, to expand hunting opportunities on Oahu. Expenditures incurred: \$18,000

Total WRF expenditures incurred for Statewide Administration: \$44,305

Future Program Plans

1. Publish notification of game bird hunting season announcement - \$1,000 (100% WRF)
2. Provide for the costs of producing the a limited number of FY 2008 hunting licenses, wildlife conservation stamps, and game bird stamps - \$3,700 (75% WRF)
3. Contract with RCUH for a half-time position to assist with statewide game coordination and management-\$18,000 (50% WRF)
4. Provide assistance to private vendors for electronic license and stamp sales - \$4,000 (100% WRF)
5. Contract with RCUH for a full-time position to begin the development of a game management plan for the Big Island - \$55,000 (50% WRF)